

Docket No.: 50069-110

PATENT

7/A
DL

4-2-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Kenichi TABATA, et al.

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: January 09, 2002

Examiner:

For: DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1-25 as filed with attached amended claims 1-21.

Please amend the claims as follows:

3. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 1 wherein at a front end portion and at a back end portion in the longitudinal direction of said article, said standing portion is fixed on an article body facing the centerline of said article, and said contacting portion folds back halfway so as to be fixed on said standing portion.

4. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 1 wherein said stretching members on said contacting portion are arranged so as to be spaced each other in the standing direction and said stretching members on said standing portion are arranged so as to be spaced each other in the standing direction, respectively.

9. (Amended) A disposable absorbent article as defined in Claim 7 wherein the stretching stress of said base line-side stretching member is larger than that of said distal edge stretching member.

A1

A2